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VIA FACSIMILE AND AIRBORNE EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
Mercury Building  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423



**RE: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 619X)  
CSX Transportation, Inc.-Abandonment  
Exemption in Allegan County, Michigan**

Dear Mr. Williams:

CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") noticed a letter in the Board's public file on December 18, 2002 that had been sent by the State of Michigan Department of Agriculture ("Department") on or about December 6, 2002 with regard to the abandonment proceeding referenced above. The Department did not serve a copy of this correspondence on CSXT. The purpose of the Department's correspondence is to ask the Board to reconsider its decision in the above-captioned abandonment proceeding citing increased truck traffic as the reason for the request. In light of the fact that an Offer of Financial Assistance has been filed in this proceeding, it is unlikely that any increased truck traffic will result as a consequence of the abandonment. That being said, CSXT requests that the Board refrain from giving any consideration to the Department's correspondence. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

As an aside, CSXT discussed this proposed abandonment with certain Michigan state officials prior to filing the abandonment and explained that continued rail service was likely to result on this line.

Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Natalie S. Rosenberg

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NSR/pkw

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